

Dublin And Munster Presbytery



Presbyterian Church In Ireland

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October 1994

Welcome to our new Editor

Alistair Gregg has volunteered to be our editor and we are delighted. He brings enthusiasm, vision and technological expertise to this periodical. He knows it will be a concentrated task demanding patience and perseverance. We thank him for his willingness to succeed James Seery.

The best way to thank Alistair is to provide material for Link - Up for the three issues each year. Let each congregation make sure that one person is responsible for sending information to him on time. Thank you folks! and thank you, Alistair!

Link - Up convener: Rev. James Carson

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Abbey

NEWS ITEM

INSTALLATION:

Rev. Gabrielle Ellis was installed in Ballycarry Presbyterian Church on 16th. of September 1994. She is a former member of Abbey and well known for her social work in the Dublin area.

Rev. Alan Martin



Abbey Open Church:

Abbey Presbyterian Church is open to visitors for twelve weeks of the summer each year. This year we have had about 4,800 visitors of all nationalities coming into the Church. There is an audiovisual presentation on the present life and history of the congregation; we also had a Christian Aid exhibition and a photographic display on Christian influences in Dublin city.

As part of this open Church programme we had an **Abbey Arts Week** which was led by **Diane Petherick** of the Irish Mission and assisted by **Alan Falls** who is a community worker with the Methodist Church. We used this week to witness through lunch-time presentations involving drama and music. The lunch-time programmes were very professionally presented by Diane and Alan - we are very grateful to them for leading this week. Overall the week was thought provoking and encouraging for us all.

Abbey's Open Church is part of our out-reach work. We hope that through the various presentations and exhibitions and simply by allowing people to wander into the Church that we may share something of our Christian lives and experiences.

Mr. Richard McMurtry



Adelaide Road Donore

This Autumn we are looking forward to a number of events.

Harvest:

Harvest Thanksgiving Services
will be on Sunday 9th. October.



Overseas Sunday:

'Overseas Sunday' on the 16th. October will feature the **Rev. Gordon Campbell**, soon to be in Marseille, PCI partner with the Eglise Reformee de France.

Amsterdam:

It is always good to welcome **David and Mary Adams** home from Amsterdam, where David is musical director of the Church of Scotland congregation there. He will be playing Ard's organ next on 20th. November all being well.

The **Rev. Russell Birney** of High Kirk, Ballymena, did a pulpit swap with our minister on 25th. September.

Anniversaries:

Four score years and sixteen:

Mrs. Daysie Maguire was 96 in June.

Diamond Wedding:

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Bell celebrated their Diamond Wedding in September.

Renewal of marriage vows:

Recognising that this is 'International year of the family', and acknowledging the many pressures upon wives and husbands today we hope to include a 'renewal of marriage vows' at a morning service this term.

Rwanda:

The need for Rwanda touched us deeply, and a total of **£2396.00** has been donated this summer to aid efforts there.

Please Pray:

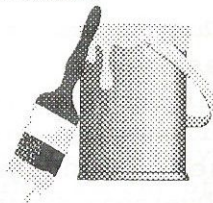
Interest in our redevelopment plans is encouraging and we greatly value the ongoing prayers of 'Link - Up' readers in our life and witness within this community.

Rev. Frank P. Sellar

Aghada and Trinity, Cork

The Pink Palace:

What was known as the ministers room at **Trinity**, is now known to some as *The Pink Palace*, after the decorators had completed their work.



Other renovations over the summer included storm glazing to the main window and partial replacement of the floor at **Aghada**. We hope that the whole floor can be made good before either minister or congregation make an unscheduled disappearance!

Co-option of Elder:

We are glad to have **Billy Hull** added to our numbers on **Trinity Kirk Session**, and we shall benefit from his years of service in Clontarf and with the Irish Mission.

No Gain Without Pain!

It looks as if there will be more than one **Disciple Bible Course** in the Cork area this year (as described in the June Link-Up), including one based in Trinity. *Do pray for those taking part as they take on the discipline of daily readings and attendance at the weekly meetings over a nine month period.*

A change of building for Trinity Church:

On Sunday 16th. October, Trinity is having an experimental service in the small hall in place of our usual morning service. As in many of our congregations there are two views about Worship: one favours the space and solemnity of an old Church building and traditional hymns; the other favours intimacy and more contemporary praise. It is important to try and experience both possibilities, particularly as the small hall makes it easier for children to be involved (e.g.. in drama). Opportunity will be given at the close of the service to fill in an evaluation sheet and Kirk Session will then review the experiment. It would be interesting to hear how other congregations are using "language, form and music appropriate both to Scripture and to our time and culture" (Mission Statement of PCI).

Rev. John Faris

Fermoy

Harvest Service and Presentation:

The end of the summer has brought the end of a modest but important period of service by our Methodist lay preacher, **Mr. Jack Giles**, who has travelled from Bandonover for the past eleven years to necessitate the continuation of the fortnightly service. A presentation is to be made at the Harvest Thanksgiving on Friday 7th. October, when the preacher is to be the **Rev. John Woodside**.



While we are sorry to say farewell to Jack, we are glad that **Rev. Stephen Johnston** and **John Corcoran** are available for the services and to continue the Bible Study. Do pray for the consolidation of this work.

Rev. John Faris

Social Witness Southern Development Committee

I have been reminded recently of Presbyterian involvement in PACT, the Protestant adoption society and support and counselling service for single parents. Our congratulations and good wishes to **Rev. James Brogan** who is being appointed as **President of PACT**. This is one example of "Valuable Work" by "Valuable People" the theme of our conference on 1st. October. We hope to have some reports from that conference in the next Link-Up.

Rev. John Faris

"A Godless College?"

This is the title of a conference being organised by the chaplains in February 1995 to mark the 150th. anniversary of **University College Cork**. Prof. Finlay Holmes is one of the main speakers. I would be delighted to hear from Presbyterians who have studied at U.C.C., any reminiscences of their time there and what input Presbyterianism had in College life.

Rev. John Faris, 63 Rochestown Rise, Cork.



Arklow And Greystones

Hi folks!

We are catching our breath after a hectic but exciting summer.

Wedding Bells:

Arklow rejoice in the marriage of **Lisa Crammond and Leeson Woods**. They got a good "send - off" with much fun and prayer.

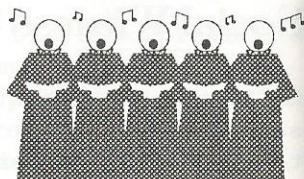


Holiday Bible Club:

Our Holiday Bible Club was one of the highlights of the year which had an attendance of about 50 children and was well supported by parents. A team from Hamilton Road Congregation, Bangor, led the club and they had a fantastic rapport with the children. It was really super!

We were on Radio:

In August, Greystones, together with some summer friends, joined us for a Radio Broadcast which consisted of ten Hymns and two Choruses. We are very thankful to God for this time of praise.



Presbytery Visitation:

A Visitation of Presbytery is due in October and we are looking forward to this encouraging time.

A dedicated people:

Coffee mornings each Wednesday, "Forty Minutes" each Sunday evening, barbecue for the congregation, involvement in C.S.S.M. etc. show the dedicated faithfulness of our people.

The C.S.S.M. had a team of about 50, led by Rev. Robert McMullan, and they did a sterling job with about 400 children plus young people.

Baptism:

Recently we were delighted to baptise **Robert Douglas Lee**, son of **Andrew and Joyce** (nee Taylor) - a very happy occasion.

Election of Ruling Elders:

New elders are being elected and we expect the Ordination Service to be on Sunday 30th. October at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Night With The Word:

"Thursday Night With The Word" will soon begin again and themes will include:-

"The History Of The Bible"

"How To Study The Bible"

"Learning To Pray"

"How To Distinguish True Christianity From False"

It should be fascinating.

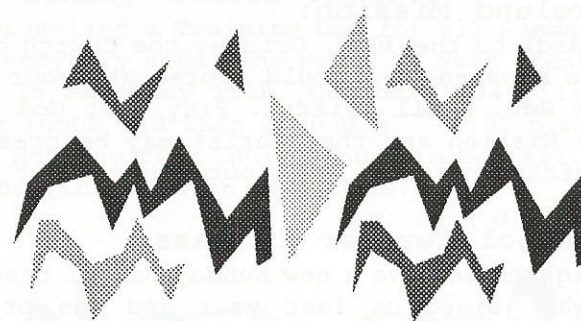
We all send our love in Christ. May you be greatly blessed with the presence of the Lord over the Autumn. If you are in our area any Sunday our services of worship each week are as follows

Arklow: 9:30 a.m.

Greystones 11:30 a.m.

Death: Greystones congregation experienced a great loss through the death of Frances Shaw. Frances was a woman of many talents, used in Greystones, the Irish Countrywomen's Association and many areas of Irish Life. Her family are much in our prayers.

Rev. James Carson



Athy And Naas

Services:

We were delighted to have a number of visitors at our services during the summer months. If you are passing the area you would be very welcome to join us in fellowship. The times of our services are: Athy 10:30 a.m. Naas 12:00 noon.

Glory To God:

In Naas we have purchased the new Church Hymnbook supplement, 'Glory to God', and we are having pleasure in learning the new Hymns with the accompaniment of a piano-keyed accordion.

Fellowship Night:

Our fellowship night resumes again this Autumn when we hope to study the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our Church.

Harvest:

Harvest in Naas is on the 25th. September at 11:00 am. and the speaker is **Rev. Dr. R.J.W. Mac Dermott, Sandymount.**
Harvest in Athy is on 2nd. October at 8:00 pm and will be taken by **Rev. Ruth Gregg.**



Mission News:

Presbytery Missionary Tour:

On the 16th. of October, we are looking forward to having **Miss Mabel Colson** speaking to us of her work in Brazil among the Indigenous Indians, as part of the 'Presbytery Missionary Tour.'

Church of Ireland Mission:

From the 23rd. to the 30th. October the Church of Ireland in Athy is having a **Mission**, and would appreciate your prayers. The speaker will be **Rev. Niall Griffin**. Pray that God may send his blessing on the Mission and that Christ may be presented in the power of the Spirit that many will put their trust in Him.

New Sunday School Teacher In Naas:

We are delighted to have a new Sunday School teacher in Naas, **Mr. D Israel** who joined us last year and has proved himself committed to his Church and his Lord. He brings enthusiasm and dedication to the task, and we ask you to pray for him as he takes up his post.

Out-reach to children:

We thank **William and Sandra Workman** for their intensive programme of out-reach to children age 6-12 in the Naas and Athy areas. From the 4th. to the 8th. July a Holiday Bible Club was held in Naas. From the 11th. to 29th. July some open air clubs were held in the estates in Athy; and from the 8th. to 12th. August a Holiday Bible club was held in Athy.

New Communicant:

It was our privilege on 19th. June to receive **Miss. Shiree Fraser** as a new communicant in Athy Church, having made her vows publicly before the congregation.

Weddings:

It was also my privilege on 4th. August to conduct my first wedding in Athy - congratulations to

Miss Gillian Mooney and Mr. Alastair Pim.
Also congratulations to **Miss. Claire Bryan** from Naas Presbyterian Church and

Mr. Ian Pickett who were married on the 5th. August in Celbridge Church of Ireland.

Rev. Ruth Gregg



Presbytery Sunday School Report:

I have organised a **Training Day** for all Sunday School teachers in the Presbytery area. The venue is Naas Presbyterian Church and the date is **Saturday 15th. October 1994** (11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. stop for lunch and then 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Our speaker will be **Mr. O McAuley** from Church House in Belfast. I look forward to seeing those involved on that date.

Rev. Ruth Gregg



Carlow And Fermoy

We are thankful to God for an encouraging attendance at the bi-weekly services over the past few months. The services in Carlow are on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 3:30 p.m., and in Fermoy on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:30 a.m. We are looking forward to our winter programme with expectation, hoping for a real sense of God's presence in our services.

Harvest:

Harvest thanksgiving service will be on the 9th of October when I hope to preach. Fermoy harvest will (D.V.) be on the 7th. October when **Rev. John Woodside** will be the speaker.

It is our prayer that as we bear witness to the Good News in both these areas that God will put a desire in many hearts to come to know Jesus Christ.



Out-reach:

It was good to have a youth team from the North in Carlow for a week in August to help William and Sandra Workman with Out-reach. William and Sandra also held the usual children's clubs in the summer.

Rev. Stephen Johnston



Christ Church Rathgar

Presbytery Visitation:

The summer is usually a quiet time for the congregation, but this year we found ourselves putting the finishing touches to several new schemes and carefully examining the report of the visitation of Presbytery.

The visitation came at the same time as the congregation had undertaken a major review of all aspects of its work and witness. The two exercises complemented each other and though there was a lot of extra work involved most people found the result rewarding.

Eight New Trees Planted On Church Grounds:

On the practical side the regular maintenance work of the church buildings and the grounds continued though we were sorry to discover that two of the old gracious trees at the front of the church had become diseased and dangerous. We had to have them felled much to the disquiet of some neighbours. However eight new trees have been planted, three limes, two hornbeams and three separate species of silver birch. By the law of averages only one or two members of the current Church committee will see these trees in maturity!!

The heating of the church and halls has shown very definite signs of aging and over the summer we have investigated many different forms of heating. The Committee has heard about 'dark light' and 'infra red' and several other forms of heating as well. Needless to say this will involve the congregation in considerable expenditure and various fund raising activities are being planned.

Summer Camps:

Two summer camps were organised for the young people of the congregation by our youth worker, **David Smyth**. The younger age group had the 'secret agent's club' at the start of the school holidays. We were very encouraged by the response and the interest shown. Just before the school returned, the older age group had 'get fresh' and again there was good support for the week long programme. Dave will continue with us over the next year.

Community Employment Scheme:

As part of our commitment to the local community we are starting a Community Employment Scheme with FAS. We are aware of the needs of the congregation in the areas of caretaking and cleaning, maintenance of both buildings and grounds and the benefits which would accrue from having a church office staffed on a regular basis. We are also aware of the needs of those who are long term unemployed and over the next year we hope to 'marry' the two for our mutual benefit.

Christmas Is On The Way:

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar, which is a major social event as well as a most important fund raising event will take place on Saturday 12th. November. We hope to see many long standing friends of the congregation there and we also hope to make new friends at this enjoyable event.

Rev. Mary Hunter.

Christ Church Sandymount

Annual Social / Fund Raising Events:

Two of these events have taken place - our Supper / Auction which this year raised the sum of over £1,180.00 and our spring Market which realised £750.00. Both functions were very happy occasions when, once again, we welcomed members of the congregation and their friends.

Girls' Brigade:

We were pleased also to welcome to our Hall at Christ Church the 11th. Company of the Girls' Brigade - which re-opened last year for their Annual Display which was well presented and enthusiastically received by the large attendance. Congratulations to all concerned.

Boys' Brigade:

The Annual inspection of the 22nd. Company of the Boys' Brigade was held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Hall, Blackrock, when the Inspecting Officer was **Mr. Alec Thackaberry, Battalion President**. Here again, a large attendance enjoyed the interesting and well-constructed evening, presented by officers and boys - once more, congratulations!

Rwanda:

We were indeed fortunate to have the services of **Mr. Geoff Renner** and his wife, **Mrs. Julie Renner** to take part in our Service of worship on Sunday 14th. August, when they brought home to us very vividly and graphically the desperate conditions prevailing in Rwanda and the need for practical personal involvement. On the following Sunday our special offering was in response to the Rwanda Appeal.

Social Event:

A social event was held on Saturday 17th. September when **Lucan Youth Centre** was the venue for lunch, followed by a visit to **Carton House, Maynooth**.

Annual Sale:

Reminder to all our friends - Our Annual Sale is on Saturday 5th. November from 10.30 a.m. until 1.00 p.m. - usual stalls, coffee, light lunches.

We regret having to record the following deaths.

27th. January 1994	Mrs. Muriel White
25th. February 1994	Mrs. Winnie Sutton
11th. June 1994	Mrs. Dorothy Hutchings

To the bereaved families we extend our sincere sympathy.



Clontarf

Out-reach:

The Out-reach Team, under the leadership of **Des Paul** and **Gillian Topping**, once again held their annual **Holiday Bible Club** from 11th. - 16th July. Approximately 180 children attended every day ranging in from ages from four years to early teens. Evening activities were also organised and these included bowling and a parents and friends evening. An enjoyable, though very tiring, week was had by all.

Ordination Of Ruling Elders:

On the 4th of September a commission of the Dublin and Munster Presbytery held a service of ordination in the Church, when **Hilary Fairman** and **Valerie Dagg** were ordained as Ruling Elders of the congregation. We wish God's Blessing on them both. The commission included the Moderator, the Rev. J Brogan, acting clerk - Rev Mary Hunter, and Rev Ruth Gregg who gave the sermon / charge to the Elders and congregation.

Love Is All Around:

Cupid has been busy in the congregation recently - there having been two weddings. We wish **Mr. and Mrs. David Fleming** and **Mr. and Mrs. Harold Richardson** all the best in their future lives together and may they have many years of happiness.

Valerie J Dagg



Drogheda

Baptism:

Richard Bernard James Armstrong, second son of Mr. and Mrs. John Armstrong junior, Locher Duleek. Born on 14th. April 1994 and Baptised on 19th. June 1994.

Congratulations:

The recent leaving certificate results brought joy to **Jenifer Moffett** when she obtained 3 A's and 4 B's. Good wishes are expressed to her in her future career.

Mosney Holiday Camp:

Presbyterian acts of Worship were well supported in the above camp this year. Visitors came from far and wide and were glad to have the opportunity of worship on Sunday. The Mc Cluskey family is thanked for having facilitated local Churches in this way.

Harvest Services:

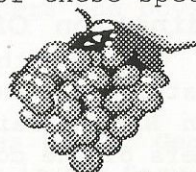
Sunday 16th October is the day set aside for these special services. **The preacher** at 7:00 pm is

Rev. Dr. F.H. Welshman, recently retired from Heswall United Reformed Church Merseyside.

He has served in Ireland, in Africa as a missionary and lecturer as well as in England.

He is a native of Downpatrick and his wife came from near Bangor.

The soloist is Mr. William Cowan a member of Sandy's Street, Newry.



Marriage:

The marriage of **Mr. Kenneth Mc Ilreavy** son of Mr. and Mrs. William Mc Ilreavy Chilanga, Beamore Road, and **Miss. Gillian Jenkins**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Jenkins, The Anchorage, Ferrycarrig Road, Wexford took place on Friday 2nd. September 1994 at the Presbyterian Church in Wexford. Congratulations and best wishes are given to the couple for a long and happy life together. Their future residence is Canada.



Engagement:

Miss. Wilma Ormiston daughter of Mrs. Alice Ormiston and the late Mr. William Ormiston has announced her engagement to **Mr. Michael Doyle**. Good wishes and congratulations are offered to the couple for their future happiness.

Visitor's Book:

A glance at the visitor's book gives some interesting facts. Drogheda Church has had worshippers from Holland, America as well as England and Ireland.

Rev. Charles McCurdy

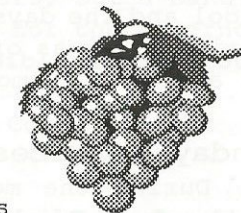
Ervey

Baptism:

Emma - Beth Isobel, third child of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Frazer, Mullinacross was baptised on 19th. June 1994, and was born on 4th. March 1994.

Harvest Service:

Sunday, 9th. October 1994 is the day chosen for the harvest thanksgiving service. The preacher at 3:00 pm will be the **Very Rev. Dr. John Thompson**, recently retired as Professor of Theology in Union Theological College, Belfast. Dr. Thompson was minister in Sandymount, Dublin and Fortwilliam Park, Belfast before being elected to the college. His home church was Toberkeigh, North Antrim, much noted for the many Presbyterian ministers produced from its families. Dr. Thompson also served as Moderator of the General Assembly and has been appointed a lecturer in the Irish School of Ecumenics.



New carpet:

A new carpet has been laid up the aisle of the church and around the pulpit area enhancing the appearance of the building. The cost was largely covered by the proceeds of a Table Quiz.

Rev. Charles McCurdy

Kells, Corboy And Mullingar

The Manse of the joint charge has been refurbished for the coming of the **Watters family of Epping, New South Wales, Australia**. A grant towards this work was obtained from the Home Mission. A great deal of voluntary work was done and items were donated to make the manse habitable. The convenor would express his warm appreciation for all that was done in this connection. Mr. Watters will be undertaking a course of study at the Irish School of Ecumenics as well as doing duty in the joint charge.

Harvest services:

Kells: Sunday 2 nd. October 1994 at 3:00 pm
Corboy: Sunday 25 th. September 1994 at 3:00 pm



Sacrament of the Lord's Supper:

All three churches will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday 9th. October 1994.

Rev. Charles McCurdy



Dun Laoghaire

Where does the time go?

It seems no time since I was last writing for Link-up. Where does the time go? Children (and their teachers) are now back at school and the days are drawing in. We will shortly be back to the usual routine as organisations recommence, and the summer will be but a distant memory.

Sunday Services with a taste of Scotland:

During the month of August, **Mrs. Maureen Duncan and her family from Edinburgh** took our service each Sunday, while our minister, Rev. David Caskie and family were taking a well earned holiday. The Duncans stayed in the manse and we hope that they enjoyed their holiday in our lovely country. We enjoyed their visit and wish them well for the future.

Children's Colouring Competition:

Our last Junior Newsletter ran a Summer colouring competition for the younger children. Congratulations to **Miss. Rebecca Horan**, our very first competition winner!

Harvest Thanksgiving Service:

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday 25th. September.



Television Broadcast From R.T.E.

Plans have been made to have a television broadcast from R.T.E. on October 9th.

James Malseed

Galway & Ballinasloe

Galway Church Filled To Capacity:

The summer months brought a large influx of visitors to the Church in Galway. One particular Sunday every seat was filled when a contingent of **Dutch Christians from the Reformed Church** joined us for the weekend. A sprinkling of holiday makers was a regular feature of the summer period.

Election of new council:

Things are settling down for the winters work which is more 'in-house' in style and, with the election of a new council due, plans are afoot for more involvement in the work of the congregation.

A Sunday service with a difference:

Ballinasloe does not pick up summer visitors, but a band of faithful worshippers gather every other Sunday for the afternoon service which is conducted in the form of a **Bible Study Group**, laced with hymns and prayers.

Rev. Robert. Cobain



Gorey

Holiday-makers:

They have been in attendance over the summer months. Many of them are annual visitors from Churches other than Methodist or Presbyterian.

Rwanda: Members raised £400 in the collection for Rwanda.

Social Concern Week:

Service to be held on 26th. September at which the speaker will be the **American Ambassador to Ireland, Mrs. Jean Kennedy-Smith.**

Rev. Roy Cooper

Enniscorthy

Harvest:

The Rev. Mary Hunter (Christ Church Rathgar) preached on Sunday 25th. September at 8:00 pm.



Hospital:

Mrs. Joy Cooper and Mrs. Eunice Gainford have returned from hospital.

Rwanda:

The congregation members raised £476.50 for Rwanda Circuit collection.

Rev. Roy Cooper

Wexford

Baptism:

Penelope Hannah Ilona infant daughter of Mr. David and Mrs. Ilona Jenkins, was baptised on Sunday, 28th. August.

Wedding:

The wedding of Gillian Jenkins and Ken McIlreavy took place on Friday, 2nd. September. Gillian is the daughter of Mr. George Jenkins, Clerk of Session of Wexford and Ken is a member of Drogheda Presbyterian Church. The couple will be living in Vancouver, Canada.



Harvest:

Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday the 9th. and Monday 10th. of October when the preacher on the 10th. will be Rev. Brian Griffin B.A., B.D. minister of Leeson Park / Centenary, Dublin.



Rwanda:

A total of £158 was raised by the members for the Circuit's collection for Rwanda.

Rev. Roy Cooper

Howth And Malahide

The summer months have passed all too quickly and although we have been delighted to welcome visitors from home and abroad to our Churches over the past two months, it will be good to see our young people back in Church when Sunday School starts again this month.

Pulpit Fall In Malahide:

On Sunday, 3rd. July, Mr. Hugh Burrows presented a beautiful Pulpit Fall to our Church in Malahide in memory of his mother, Agnes Burrows - it is the traditional Burning Bush on royal blue background and enhances greatly the furnishing of the Church - thanks Hugh.

Tennis Court Camping:

Over the summer the local Girl Guides and Boy Scouts have been camping on the tennis court at the Manse in Howth (at different times of course!) and I believe a great time has been had by all.

Congratulations are due to the following;

Birth:

Joyce (nee Hanna) and Pete Wedderburn on the birth in July of their daughter Anna Beatrice - a grandchild for Dr. John and Peggy Hanna, Malahide.

Wedding:

Gordon Smith and Jenifer Kidney who were married in Malahide Church in July - Gordon is the son of John and Rhona Smith.

Ruby Wedding:

Garvin and Gwenda Evans who celebrated their Ruby wedding in August.

Golden Wedding:

Maurice and Dorothy Averill who celebrated their Golden Wedding in July.

Death: The death has occurred in August of Ruth Smith, Malahide. Ruth was a regular attender at our Ladies Guild meetings and we shall miss her greatly. We offer our sympathy to Des and to Lorna and Trevor and their families.

Dorothy Robinson

Kilkenny

Summer Events

Fifty From Florida For Five Days:

This summer has been a busy one, with a five day visit from fifty Presbyterian teenagers from Florida.

Fifteen From France:

Fifteen young people from French Reformed congregations in Provence were with us in the summer. A bilingual Bible study was held which was a memorable challenge of their stay.

A five day holiday Bible School was held for our own children, and a weekend group came from 1st. Kilkeel congregation.

Summer Services:

The summer Services have been enriched by a large number of visitors from home and abroad especially during the Arts Week and the 'Irish Open'. A local caravan site draws a significant number of extra worshippers. There has also been the joy of a number of overseas families joining the congregation during their period of medical training in local hospitals - at present we enjoy the fellowship of **Christian doctors from Germany, Egypt, Pakistan and Nigeria.**

Election of Ruling Elders:

The provision of more adequate pastoral care for the congregation is high on our priority list for the coming year. We hope to double our present number of five Elders through an election **in November** and are also attempting to develop a suitably gifted and trained pastoral care team.

Toddler's Club:

Space problems in the creche have necessitated the introduction of a Toddler's Club for 3-4 year old's as a half-way house to Sunday School. Unfortunately it also involves finding yet another rota of willing and suitably gifted leaders.

College and University:

As always at this time of the year we rejoice with some of our young people who have successfully obtained places in College and University but feel the sadness to losing some of our finest leadership potential as invariably they do not return to Kilkenny to find work.

Death:

We have been saddened to lose one of our much-loved older members and greatest characters, Colonel Malcolm 'Murphy' Palmer DSO who died just over a year after losing his wife.

(An outstanding soldier, he had played a key role in the successful retreat against the odds of his Irish Regiment to Dunkirk and was responsible for ensuring the surrender and safety of 5000 Cossacks who were tragically later returned to Stalin and their deaths.)

Rev John Woodside

Cahir

The Cahir members are well used to the day of small things. However they have been heartened by the presence of visitors at their **9:30 a.m. summer Sunday Services** and one or two newcomers to the Church family. Making the 45 miles trip back in time for the **11:30 a.m. Kilkenny service** is at times an uncomfortably close call on busy roads and passing through successive villages just as 'Mass is getting out'. There is little time to take in the magnificent scenery of South Tipperary on the occasionally sunny Sunday mornings. **The winter Services revert to the sleepier time of 3:30 p.m.**

Rev. John Woodside

Lucan

New Elders:

Lucan Presbyterian Church hopes to have an election for New Elders in the Autumn.

Mrs. Helen Kennedy

Lucan Youth Centre

Lucan Youth Centre,
Primrose Lane,
Lucan, Co. Dublin.

Telephone: (01) 6280393 Fax: (01) 6280770
code from the N. Ireland is (0103531)

This summer Lucan Youth Centre enjoyed one of the busiest summers ever. We had a very fruitful and worth-while time and this is a little of what happened.

Let's Take A Walk Up Primrose Lane

Wall to wall children! We have had the Privilege of relating to the local children through the ministry of the Out-reach teams organised by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This year again, 850 young people came up to **Summerfest**. We also had a visit from the Moderator, Rev. Dr. David McGaughey and his wife Anne. This was a great encouragement to the staff and all the team at the centre. Where did the team come from? Seattle, Gettysburg, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, as well as all parts of Ireland, from Leixlip to Londonderry and Coleraine to Conlig.

Short term accommodation for special guests:

The centre has once again been used to offer respite care to physically and mentally handicapped guests, thus affording their parents and carers the opportunity to have a very necessary break. This is a very worthwhile ministry and we would encourage anyone in the Presbytery to offer their help.

Soccer Camp:

Hard on the heels of Summerfest came the Soccer Camp run by **Athletes in Action from Vancouver, Canada**. You may well ask why a team from Canada was trying to teach the Irish how to play soccer - but once again this was an out-reach to local children - 250 this time, but what a resounding success it was. We envisage having this one again.



Scripture Union:

A Scripture Union from a school in Northern Ireland were our next guests, and they said they went home with a real sense of belonging and blessing. What an encouragement that was to us.

Summer Camp:

Summer Camp for young Presbyterian children aged between 12 and 14 was the next venture and it was extremely well supported by campers from all over Ireland. Next year we hope to run two camps so great was the enthusiasm of the older campers who had returned to participate in Close Encounters of the Jesus kind.

Mrs. Helen Kennedy



St. Andrew's Blackrock



Stedfast Band Concert:

St. Andrew's has had an eventful spring and summer. Our major fund raising event of the season was held in the spring with a **Stedfast Band Concert** in Dun Laoghaire Presbyterian Church. The sum of £1500.00 was raised - our thanks to Dun Laoghaire for the use of their Church and congratulations to the fund raising committee.

Strean Members Come South:

We were pleased to welcome back our friends from **Strean Presbyterian Church, Newtownards**, with whom we are twinned. Twelve members of Strean made the journey South. On the Saturday afternoon we visited the Carravaggio Exhibition followed by a most enjoyable evening at the home of Gordon and Norma Henderson when old friendships were renewed. After Church we had a lunch in the Church Hall. The **Rev. William Sinclair** of Strean told us of the repairs to their Church following the bomb damage and how, through adversity, the congregation had been brought closer together.

Centenary at St. Andrew's:

Next year (1995) sees our centenary at St. Andrew's and a committee is making preparations for these celebrations. The Church is to be redecorated at the beginning of October as part of the preparation.

Wedding:

The wedding of **Mr. Nicholas Merton** and **Miss. Marie Dowling** took place on May 13th. - every happiness to them both.



Dates for the Diary:

9th. October:	Communion and reopening of the redecorated Church.
16th. October:	Harvest Service
23rd. October:	Ordination of new Elders at 7:00 p.m.
Our Elders Elect are:	Mrs. S Anderson Mrs. V Bowwell Mrs. N. McLoughlin Mrs. C Poynton Mr. G.O. Martin

Service of re-dedication:

Rev. James Brogan, Moderator of Dublin and Munster Presbytery, is to conduct a service of re-dedication of our Church on the 6th. November 1994.

Death: It is with deep regret that we mark the death of Mrs. Margaret Kathleen Gill, a long standing member of our congregation, on the 6th. of August.

Rev. Denis Campbell

St. Andrew's, Bray

Barbecue:

We are grateful to **Jim and Joan Gregg** for hosting a Church barbecue in their garden at Kilmacanogue. The July evening was warm and dry and a good time was had by all.

Special Visitors:

Recently we welcomed the **PWA and Young Women's Group from Glenwherry** Presbyterian Church in Co. Antrim. There was an evening of fellowship in Blackrock Manse on the Saturday and they joined us for worship the following morning. Our friendship link with Glenwherry continued in June when Dorothy Beattie visited their PWA as a guest speaker.

Bangor Ladies Choir:

We were delighted to welcome the prize - winning singers of the Bangor Ladies Choir to morning worship in May. This was a joint venture with our Methodist friends. The offering went to the Methodist organ fund.

Harvest:

Harvest Thanksgiving Services will take place on 16th. October at 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.



Death: We regret to announce the death of Miss Ruby Wolfe of Manor Avenue, Greystones on the 5th. July 1994.

Rev. Denis Campbell



Tullamore And Mountmellick

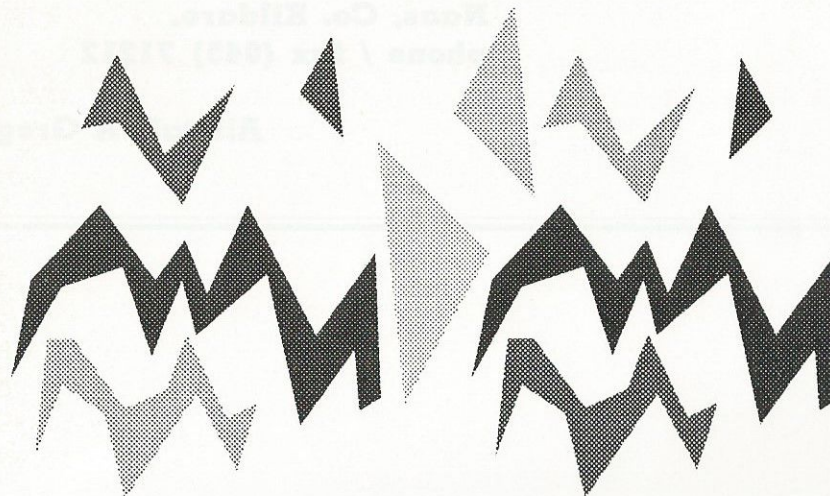
FIRST WEDDING IN OVER ONE QUARTER OF A CENTURY!!

Saturday 6th. August 1994 was an exciting day for Mountmellick Presbyterian Church. The first wedding service for twenty-six years was celebrated there, when **Elinor Steenson** married **Nigel Fennell** of Carlow. The bride is a daughter of Mrs. Olive Steenson, our Session Clerk in Mountmellick, and her husband Mr. Bob Steenson. There have, of course, been other weddings of Mountmellick members, but since 1968 all of these have taken place in other Church buildings.



There have also been a few marriages of Tullamore members (the latest of which was that of **John Burns** and **Beth Merrin** in the Church of Ireland, Carrickmacross on Thursday, 21st. of July 1994.) over the past few years, but hardly any in the actual church building there. The presence of these couples has made a small but appreciated difference to our hitherto very diminished numbers, and has put some new heart into us.

Rev Girvan McKay



NOTE TO ALL Link - Up REPORTERS:

I would like to thank all who sent in material for this issue of Link - Up - the reports were excellent and I look forward to hearing from you all again in January.

All letters or faxes for publication in the next edition of Link - Up should reach me by the *seventh of January 1995*, for inclusion in the February edition.

**Send to 15 Hillside Drive,
Naas, Co. Kildare.
phone / fax (045) 71212**

Alistair A Gregg